

SOUTH CAROLINA EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting Thursday, January 20, 2000 1:30PM Room 221, Blatt Building

Members Present: William Barnett, Rose Berry, James E. Bryan, William Gummerson, Robert W. Harrell, Alex Martin, Douglas McTeer, Nikki Setzler, Henry Spann, Robert Staton, Ronald Townsend, Larry Wilson

I. **Welcome and Introductions**

Mr. Barnett welcomed members and guests to the meeting. He acknowledged the change in order of the meeting to accommodate two special speakers.

II. **School Finance Issues in South Carolina**

Dr. Evelyn Berry, Executive Director of the School Boards Association, introduced Dr. John Augenblick who discussed his work on school finance issues in South Carolina. Dr. Augenblick has studied the South Carolina school finance system over the last few years. He presented an analysis of EFA funding, including the shifting of costs to local revenue sources and erosion of the base student cost. Dr. Augenblick is conducting an analysis of the EAA to project the cost of funding the program

III. **Economic Development in South Carolina**

The Honorable Charles Way, Secretary of Commerce, introduced Ross Boyle who had conducted an analysis of economic development opportunities in South Carolina. Mr. Boyle summarized his work and provided insights supplementing his conclusions about the need for a radically changed level of student achievement through a more technology-oriented curriculum

IV. **Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes of December 16 were approved with the following amendment: Mr. Spann recommended that the IEP Committee should ~~determine accommodations~~ determine if the student should take the PACT or another assessment test.

V. **Subcommittee Reports**

- A. **Subcommittee on Academic Standards and Assessments:** Mr. Wilson introduced Dr. Frank Brown, MarketSearch, to present the report on the focus groups held to understand the critical elements for the ratings to be linked to performance on the state's standards-based assessments. Mr. Wilson noted that the SDE had concluded incorporation of EOC recommendations in the science standards and that the social studies standards are under external review.
- B. **Subcommittee on EIA and Improvement Mechanisms:** Mr. Staton outlined presentations of the budget recommendations to the Public Education Subcommittee of Ways and Means.
- C. **Subcommittee on Parent Involvement:** On behalf of the Subcommittee Mrs. Bockus presented the final recommendations, noting changes in the wording of the two recommendations which had been deferred at the December meeting.
- D. **Subcommittee on Public Awareness:** Mr. Martin summarized activities of the Subcommittee, noting the parental research project, the meeting with SC Broadcasters and the identification of issues upon which the EOC might comment.
- E. **Subcommittee on Staff and Administration:** Dr. Anderson summarized the recommendations included in the February 1 Report. Mr. Barnett informed the EOC of the membership of the Local Leadership Study Team.

VI. **General Discussion**

There was no new business.

The Committee adjourned at 3:15 p.m.